

Application Serial No: 09/977,900
In reply to Office Communication of 31 May 2006

Attorney Docket No. 80072

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 21-34 are currently in the application. No claims are allowed. Claims 21-34 stand rejected.

The Examiner rejected claims 21-27, 30-31 and 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bookspan, Mills, Liang et al, and Suzuki, hereafter Liang et al and Suzuki.

The Examiner rejected claims 28, 29, 32 and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bookspan, Mills, Liang, Suzuki, and Hogle.

Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections in view of the amendments and the arguments provided below.

Contrary to the contentions of the Examiner in the rejections above, Suzuki does not show a scenario file as defined by the Applicant. Suzuki shows a marking file that is generated through the actions of the user on each computer. The marking file acts on the same content on each computer to mark viewed content, content for later reproduction, slow reproduction, fast reproduction and pause at position. These functions allow the user to annotate and bookmark the content. Suzuki does not show any ability or intent to use this marking file for displaying different content to different users.

Applicant suggests that this marking file cannot have the claimed function of Applicant's scenario file because it does not coordinate playing of different files on different computers

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in a coordinated manner. Two factors of similarity are missing. First, the Suzuki marking file is not coordinated among the networked computers. Each computer has its own marking file that can be changed by the user's action, thus removing any element of coordination. Second, the content taught by Suzuki is broadcast content, meaning that the same content is distributed to all of the workstations. Suzuki provides another method for showing the same content to all of the users, not a method for providing different coordinated content to a plurality of users.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of claims 21-34 because the prior art fails to teach Applicant's step of providing at least one scenario file.

Applicant further suggests that one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to combine Suzuki with Bookspan, Liang, Mills and/or Hogle to give Applicant's invention.

Applicant respectfully suggests that one of ordinary skill in the art could not to combine Liang with any of the remaining prior art to give different coordinated displays on at least two of a plurality of computers because Liang teaches server control of presentation content. With such central control, one of ordinary skill in the art would not apply many of the steps of Applicant's invention, and addition of these steps would be redundant. For example, Liang does not provide a scenario file

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on each client computer because scenario file type commands are coordinated by the server. Provision of this type of file to the client computer would be redundant. Likewise, synchronizing timing as taught by Mills is redundant to Bookspan and Suzuki because they teach simultaneous broadcast of content to a plurality of files.

Applicant teaches a method for providing coordinated content on multiple computers with each computer being capable of displaying different content. Use of a client controlled system allows less reliance on networking and bandwidth to provide a robust display of the content. None of the prior art teaches nor makes such a system obvious because of the differing goals of the prior art systems. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the Examiner's rejection of claims 21-34 on these grounds. Allowance of such claims is also solicited.

Applicant respectfully suggests in view of these remarks that all grounds for rejection and objection have been removed by the foregoing amendment. Reconsideration and allowance of this application are therefore earnestly solicited.

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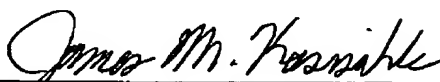
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The Examiner is invited to telephone James M. Kasischke, Attorney for Applicant, at 401-832-4736 if, in the opinion of the Examiner, such a telephone call would serve to expedite the prosecution of the subject patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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